

nominally reimburse Holocaust victims, this action was nowhere near the sum of financial losses most victims suffered.

After World War II, United States support for an independent Jewish homeland was fueled by our desire to help settle the large number of Jewish refugees, displaced persons, and survivors of the Nazi holocaust. Ever since President Harry Truman recognized Israel on May 15, 1948, minutes after Israel declared its independence, the United States Government has maintained a strong relationship with Israel, the Jewish community around the world, and survivors of the Nazi holocaust. The Holocaust Victim Redress Act continues to shine light painfully on a wound that has not yet been healed.

It is important that our country continue to aid holocaust victims recover lost assets and even more important to continue pressuring other nations to completely open their wartime records so we can fully account for all lost assets. It would be easy for the United States and other nations around the globe to sweep this problem under the rug 50 years after the holocaust. However, this great nation founded under the principles of liberty and justice for all will never rest until victims of the holocaust can finally receive the justice they deserve.

TRIBUTE AND MEMORY OF THE
HONORABLE EDNA KELLY

HON. CONSTANCE A. MORELLA

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 4, 1998

Mrs. MORELLA. Mr. Speaker, on December 14, 1997, Edna F. Kelly passed away at the age of 91. Mrs. Kelly served as a Member of Congress for twenty years, from 1949 to 1969.

I did not know Congresswoman Kelly personally, but I did know her through her daughter, Maura Patricia (Pat) Kelly who works in the Clerk's office on the Daily Digest, and Jean Gilligan, a longtime friend of the Kelly family and a Hill retire after 45 years of service.

Edna Kelly was the fifth daughter of Patrick J. Flannery, an Irish immigrant, and his wife, Mary Ellen Flannery. Mrs. Kelly, after graduation from Hunter College in 1928, married Edward L. Kelly, an attorney who was active in Brooklyn Democratic politics and later became a judge on the New York City Court.

Mrs. Kelly was one of the those pioneers who paved the way for more representation by women on the local and federal level. Her active political career began when her spouse met an untimely death in 1942. She was active in the Women's Auxiliary of Brooklyn's Madison Democratic Club. She then joined the county executive committee and became research director for the Democrats in the State Legislature. In 1949, she was elected to fill the unexpired term of deceased Representative Andrew L. Somers' vacant seat in the 81st Congress and was reelected by her constituents nine times. Her constituents affectionately called her "Kelly."

Mrs. Kelly became known as an expert in Soviet issues and became the third-ranking member of the Committee on Foreign Affairs. During the cold war she headed several fact-finding missions to Berlin, Hungary, Czechoslovakia, Greece and Turkey. Her intensive

studies and reports raised our country's awareness of the threat of international Communism and the importance of NATO. She firmly opposed Communist expansion. As chair of the Foreign Affairs Subcommittee on Europe, she advanced the advantages of rebuilding a strong Europe. In 1963, President Kennedy appointed Mrs. Kelly as a member of the U.S. delegation to the United Nations. She was instrumental in creating the Arms Control and Disarmament Agency and she served as co-chair of the first United States-Canada Interparliamentary Conference.

Mrs. Kelly is known for her sponsorship of legislation creating the Peace Corps.

Mrs. Kelly's interests went beyond the international scene. She was a sensitive yet outspoken champion of those who were opposed. She sponsored legislation to improve the economic status of American families and refugees of World War II. Her bill, the Mutual Security Act, helped to find homes for more than 1.5 million people dislocated from the Soviet Union and Europe. She also supported the civil rights legislation, the newly formed State of Israel, and pleaded for Irish unity. She denounced political and religious persecution as an indignation to humanity. She stood for peace and understanding among all people.

As the only Congresswoman in the New York delegation at that time, Mrs. Kelly was at the center of a group of bipartisan women legislators who focused their attention on the economic problems of women in their roles as homemakers, widows, and employees. The work, tenacity, and joint efforts of these Members of Congress resulted in legislation to correct discrimination in laws denying women employment, credit, housing, pensions and educational opportunity. Passage of her bill in 1951 established the principle of "equal pay for equal work" and launched a new era in the struggle for women's equality.

Edna Kelly was pivotal to the progress made by women in our country today. She will be remembered by those who knew her as a person of strong character, sharp intellect and gracious Irish charm. For those who did not have the privilege of knowing her personally, she is, in the words of her daughter, Pat, " * * * a great person to emulate."

REMEMBERING GEORGE
WASHINGTON

HON. BENJAMIN G. GILMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 4, 1998

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to draw my colleague's attention to my Concurrent Resolution on the remembrance of the 200th anniversary of the death of the father of our nation George Washington. The contributions of this former farmer and member of the Virginia House of Burgesses have played an integral role in the formation of our nation's history and culture.

Little did Washington know that those fateful shots fired in Lexington and Concord would eventually lead him down a path that would cause him to forever be synonymous with the ideas of freedom worldwide.

His reluctant acceptance of the Second Continental Congress' appointment to head the American Continental Army resulted in one

of the world's greatest triumphs against tyranny. The example he displayed was used by nations around the world who desired freedom from their tyrannical rulers and oppressors. It is also important to note the pivotal role General Washington played in the drafting and ratification of the United States Constitution, which has also served as a model for other nations around the globe.

However, the most important role he may have played was as the first President of the newborn United States of America. His influence on the designs and ideals for our government was of great assistance to the formation of a system where no one body could achieve an overabundance in power. In turn his selflessness would limit his own Presidency. His reasoning was sound though, for the elimination of the possibility of tyranny in the nation he fought so hard to create.

Biographer James Thomas Flexnir said, "From the first moment in command, Washington was more than a military leader; he was the eagle, the standard, the flag, the living symbol of the cause."

The selfless bravery and astute decision making of this man helped to formulate our great nation into what it is today. That is why I wish to bring this Concurrent Resolution to the attention of my colleagues. I can think of no one person more deserving of such an honor.

I ask my colleagues to join Speaker GINGRICH and myself in approving this Concurrent Resolution, and to join me in the celebration of this outstanding human being.

CONGRATULATIONS SAMUEL A.
"SKIP" KEESAL, JR.

HON. JANE HARMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 4, 1998

Ms. HARMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Samuel A. "Skip" Keesal, Jr. on his recognition as Distinguished Citizen of the Year by the Long Beach Area Council Boy Scouts of America.

Skip has dedicated himself to the local community by supporting numerous charitable and civic projects. His enduring commitment and outstanding leadership are reflected in the Boards on which he serves: the Boards of Directors for the Long Beach Area Council of Boys Scouts of America, YMCA of Greater Long Beach, and the Board of Trustees at Long Beach Memorial Hospital. His strong support of education is exemplified in his founding membership in the Board of Governors at California State University Long Beach and his support of many programs sponsored by the local schools. Further recognition of Skip's efforts include the "Outstanding Corporation" award presented to Keesal, Young & Logan, the law firm of which he is founding partner, on National Philanthropy Day in Los Angeles.

He serves on the Advisory Board of the Children's Health Fund which awarded him the "Big Apple" award for his outstanding contributions to children's health care.

Support of his profession through excellence and personal commitment also deserves recognition. As a result of Skip's trial practice, he has been named to the "Best Lawyers in